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URBAN DISTRICT OF TETTENHALL

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# ANNUAL REPORT

*of the*

Medical Officer of Health

*For 1956*



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**PUBLIC HEALTH OFFICERS  
of the  
LOCAL AUTHORITY**

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**Medical Officer of Health :**

**S. C. J. FALKMAN**

L.R.C.P.(ED.). L.R.C.S. (ED.), L.R.F.P. & S.(GLAS.),  
L.M.ROTUNDA (DUBLIN), D.R.C.O.G.(LONDON), D.P.H.(DURHAM).

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**Public Health Inspector:**

**E. BARNES**

**M.A.P.H.I.**

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**Clerical:**

**Mrs. B. M. BATES**



**REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
FOR 1956.**

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**To the Chairman and Members of the  
Tettenhall Urban District Council.**

Mr. Chairman, Madam and Gentlemen,

I herewith submit my Annual Report for the year 1956 which on the whole shows a favourable picture with regard to Infectious Disease and further progress in the field of Public Health.

There has been an increase in the birth rate from 15.2 in 1955 to 19.11 and a decrease in the death rate from 12.1 in 1955 to 9.9 in 1956. The local population trend during the year has therefore been favourable. The highest birth rate recorded in the 10 year period was 22.6 in the year 1947, whereas the lowest death rate was recorded at 8.2 in the year 1953. As in previous years the greatest number of deaths were due to Vascular Lesions of the Nervous System, Coronary Disease and Angina, which together accounted for 39 out of a total of 114 deaths. Cancer accounted for another 23 deaths. These and the great majority of causes of deaths were due to diseases of the aged.

Infantile Mortality has shown a further decrease from 24.4 in 1955 to 22.94 in 1956. The lowest recorded Infantile Mortality of 7.4 in the year 1948 has never been attained again. Of the 5 total deaths, 4 occurred in the Neonatal period.

With regard to Infectious Diseases we were fortunate in recording only a total of 45 notifications against 387 in the year 1955 when there was a heavy incidence of Measles.

One case of Poliomyelitis was notified which has been commented on in the appropriate section of the report.

There have been no deaths from Tuberculosis during the year but the number of new cases has not been reduced but increased from 14 in 1955 to 15 in 1956. One has of course to consider in conjunction the increase in total population from 10,780 in 1955 to 11,410 in 1956. The Urban District can furthermore pride itself on its enviable record of Tuberculosis Rehousing as at the end of the year 1956 there was only one case on the waiting list.

With regard to General Public Health further progress has been made with the proposed new Sewage Scheme. The new Tettenhall Mortuary was completed during the year and has since been used for post-mortem examinations.

Since the coming into force of the Food Hygiene Regulations 1955, on the 1st of July 1956, the Tettenhall Health Department has been most active in raising the standard of Food Hygiene in the Urban District which on the whole is on quite a high standard. This matter will remain the constant concern of the Health Department in the years to come as food contamination is at present still one of the most potent sources of epidemiological outbreaks.

I am,

Your obedient Servant,

S. C. J. FALKMAN,

Medical Officer of Health.

July, 1957.

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## HEALTH SERVICES

The Medical Officer of Health holds office in virtue of a joint appointment by the Sedgley Urban District Council, the Tettenhall Urban District Council and the Staffordshire County Council. Of his time 5/11ths is devoted to the Sedgley Urban District, 2/11ths to the Tettenhall Urban District and 4/11ths to the Staffordshire County Council. As Assistant County Medical Officer he is responsible for School Medical Inspections, School Clinics, Minor Ailment Clinics and Maternity and Child Welfare Clinics. He further deals with Examinations under the Children and Young Persons Act—1933, Ascertainment of Handicapped Pupils and Medical Examinations of Entrants to the Teaching Profession. In addition to General Public Health Duties for the Urban District the Medical Officer of Health also examines applicants for Superannuation purposes.

The Public Health Inspector is in full time appointment with the Local Authority. He is a qualified Meat and Food Inspector and his duties are concerned with Meat Inspection, General Sanitation, and the Provisions of the Shops—Fireguard—Pet Animals—and Factories Acts. In addition he acts as Rodent Officer and Local Food Officer in Civil Defence.

Public Health and Sanitary matters are brought forward in the Public Health Committee which meets once monthly. Housing and re-housing matters are dealt with in the Housing Committee which also meets monthly.

There are two Health Visitors for the Tettenhall Area under the direction of the County Council. Since the inception of the National Health Service Act, 1946, from the 5th July, 1948, the Health Services are provided by the County Council as the Local Health Authority and the following services have, therefore, become a County Council responsibility :

1. Care of Mothers and Young Children.
2. Domiciliary Midwifery.
3. Health Visiting.
4. Home Nursing.
5. Vaccination and Immunisation.
6. Ambulance Services
7. Prevention of Illness, Care and After-care.
8. Domestic Help Service.
9. Duties connected with Lunacy and Mental Health.
10. Provision of Health Centres.

No Health Centres have been built in the Tettenhall Urban District during the year.



### **School Health Service.**

The Medical Inspection of School Children is provided by the County Council who have also established Ophthalmic, Dental and Orthopaedic Clinics. The various age groups are examined periodically and from the School Inspections referred to these Clinics or to the General Practitioner if so required.

Cod Liver Oil is provided for cases of under-nutrition or under-development. In cases of Infectious Disease and if deemed necessary, special steps are taken in conjunction with the School Authorities to exclude scholars who have been in contact with such disease. Protective measures, immunisation and isolation are furthermore under the direction of the Health Department.

The School Dental—Ear, Nose and Throat—and Eye Clinics provided in the Urban District are given in a separate table together with sessions for Speech Therapy.

### **Maternity and Child Welfare.**

The Staffordshire County Council maintains Ante-Natal and Child Welfare Centres at the Tettenhall and Tettenhall Wood Clinics.

The Regional Hospital Board provides in addition for Maternity cases in the New Cross and Lichfield Hospitals. Cases wishing to remain at home are delivered by the County Midwives who, if so required, can call on the obstetric assistance of a General Practitioner.

The Staffordshire County Council also provides for the care and treatment of deformed, mentally sub-normal and handicapped children. The cases are selected from School Medical Inspections and Child Welfare Clinics or referred by General Practitioners. Illegitimate, homeless and neglected children are provided for in the Nurseries, Children's Homes and Remand Homes of the County.

### **National Assistance Act, 1948.**

Since the passing of this Act the former Public Assistance Services ceased and were taken over by the National Assistance Board under the Ministry of National Insurance. The functions of the Relieving Officers have therefore been discontinued and replaced by the Officers of the National Assistance Board. The National Assistance Board holds no office in the Urban District.

As under the National Health Insurance everyone is now medically insured, the medical supervision and treatment of necessitous cases has become the responsibility of the Medical Practitioner and the Regional Hospital Board. Other classes of necessitous cases, such as homeless, abandoned or neglected individuals are the responsibility of the County Welfare Authorities.

### **Infectious Diseases.**

Hospital treatment for cases suffering from Infectious Disease and in need of such treatment is provided in Moxley Hospital. Hospital admissions and discharges from and to the Tettenhall Urban District are notified to the Tettenhall Health Department.

### **Tuberculosis.**

Institutions are maintained by the Regional Hospital Board for the treatment of persons suffering from Tuberculosis. No Tuberculosis Dispensary is available in the Tettenhall Urban District. The visiting of Tuberculosis patients with their care and after-care is under the administration of the County Council. Dispensaries are situated at Dudley and Wolverhampton and several Sanatoria are available.

### **Small Pox.**

Cases of suspected Small Pox are notified to the Small Pox Consultant in cases of doubt, who takes further charge of the disposal of the case. Local protective and preventive measures are under the direction of the Health Department.

### **Vaccination and Immunisation.**

The County Council does not provide for a Vaccination Centre in Tettenhall, but arrangements can be made with the Medical Practitioner by those who wish themselves or their children vaccinated.

Immunisation against Diphtheria, Whooping Cough, and Poliomyelitis Vaccination is undertaken in the Child Welfare and School Clinics while special Immunisation Sessions in Schools provide for an increase in the immunity of the child population.

Diphtheria Anti-toxin is supplied by the Area Office in Brierley Hill to the Child Welfare Clinics and to the General Practitioners. Vaccination Lymph can be obtained from the Public Health Laboratory in Stafford.

### **Ambulances.**

The Ambulance Services are operated by the County Council. An ambulance is stationed in Tettenhall from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m. Monday to Friday and from 8 a.m. until 12 noon on Saturdays. After these times, the service is continued at Darlaston, Telephone Jamesbridge 2591.



**Clinics and Treatment Centres.****Tettenhall Council Offices, Upper Green.**

Infant Welfare Centre	Thursdays—fortnightly 2 p.m. to 5 p.m.
Ante-Natal Clinic	Thursdays—fortnightly 9 a.m. to 12 noon.
Relaxation Classes	Thursdays—weekly 9-30 and 10-30 a.m. (Two Sessions)
School Clinic	Thursdays—fortnightly 9 a.m. to 12 noon.
Dental Clinic	Friday p.m. as and when necessary.
Speech Therapy	Monday p.m. weekly.
Physiotherapy	Monday morning and Tuesday afternoon.
Eye Clinic	Wednesday afternoon 3 or 4 times a year.

**Tettenhall Wood - The Institute.**

Infant Welfare Centre	Thursdays—fortnightly 2 p.m. to 5 p.m. Alternating with Infant Welfare Centre at Tettenhall.
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Times and dates of Clinics are of course liable to alterations from year to year.

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## STATISTICAL SUMMARY, 1956.

Area: 2,503 Acres.

Population: 11,410 (estimated mid-year 1956)

Number of inhabited houses: 3.653.

Sum Represented by a Penny Rate: £532.

Rateable Value: £132.084.

General Rate: 14/8d.

Birth Rate: 19.11    England and Wales: 15.7.

Average Birth Rate for ten previous years: 17.3 (Tettenhall).

Death Rate: 9.9    England and Wales: 11.7.

Average Death Rate for ten previous years: 12.1 (Tettenhall).

Infantile Death Rate, per 1,000 births: 22.94. England and Wales:  
23.8 Infantile Death Rate for ten previous years: 30.8.

Death from Respiratory Tuberculosis—Rate: Nil.

Average Death Rate from Respiratory Tuberculosis for ten  
previous years: 0.185 (Tettenhall).

Deaths from other forms of Tuberculosis—Rate: Nil.

Average Death Rate from other forms of Tuberculosis for ten  
previous years: 0.026 (Tettenhall).

Death Rate for England and Wales, per million population:

	Males	Females	Persons
Respiratory Tuberculosis ...	164	57	109
Other Tuberculosis ...	13	11	12

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**VITAL STATISTICS.**

		Total	M.	F.	
Live Births	Legitimate	214	113	101	Birth Rate (per 1,000 population): 19.1
	Illegitimate	4	2	2	
Still Births	Legitimate	2	1	1	Rate (Per 1,000 total births) 13.58
	Illegitimate	1	-	1	
Deaths		114	61	53	Rate (per 1,000 population): 9.9

**BIRTH RATES.**

Year	TETTENHALL.		England and Wales. Birth Rate.
	No. of Births.	Birth Rate.	
1947	162	22.6	20.5
1948	136	18.2	17.9
1949	133	17.0	16.7
1950	122	14.3	15.8
1951	130	16.6	15.5
1952	130	16.4	15.3
1953	165	17.4	15.5
1954	184	18.3	15.2
1955	164	15.2	15.0
1956	218	19.1	15.7

**DEATH RATES.**

Year	TETTENHALL.		England and Wales. Death Rate.
	No. of Deaths.	Death Rate.	
1947	92	12.8	12.0
1948	76	10.1	10.8
1949	90	11.5	11.7
1950	99	12.6	11.6
1951	136	17.3	12.5
1952	86	10.8	11.3
1953	78	8.2	11.4
1954	117	11.6	11.3
1955	130	12.1	11.7
1956	114	9.9	11.7

### INFANTILE MORTALITY, 1956.

Nett Deaths from causes stated at various ages under one year of age.

Cause of Death.	Under one week.	1 to 2 weeks.	2 to 3 weeks.	3 to 4 weeks.	Total under one month.	1 to 3 months.	3 to 6 months.	6 to 9 months.	9 to 12 months.	Total Deaths under one year.
Atelectasis ...	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Cerebral Anoxaemia	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Intracranial haemorrhage	1	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Spina Bifida ...	—	1	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	1
Septicaemia ...	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
Totals ...	3	1	—	—	4	1	—	—	—	5

### INFANTILE MORTALITY RATES.

Year	TETTENHALL			England and Wales.
	Births	Deaths	Rate per 1,000 births	Rate per 1,000 births
1947	162	5	30.8	41
1948	136	1	7.4	34
1949	133	4	30.0	32
1950	112	5	44.6	29.8
1951	130	4	30.7	29.6
1952	130	6	46.1	27.6
1953	165	2	12.1	26.8
1954	184	6	32.6	25.5
1955	164	4	24.4	24.9
1956	218	5	22.94	23.8

### Ophthalmia Neonatorum.

No cases of Ophthalmia Neonatorum were notified during the year.

# CAUSES OF DEATH DURING THE YEAR, 1956.

## Causes of Death:

						M.	F.
1.	Tuberculosis, respiratory	...	...	...	...	—	—
2.	Tuberculosis, other	...	...	...	...	—	—
3.	Syphilitic disease	...	...	...	...	—	—
4.	Diphtheria	...	...	...	...	—	—
5.	Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	—	—
6.	Meningococcal infections	...	...	...	...	—	—
7.	Acute Poliomyelitis	...	...	...	...	—	—
8.	Measles	...	...	...	...	—	—
9.	Other infective and parasitic diseases	...	...	...	...	—	—
10.	Malignant Neoplasm, stomach	...	...	...	...	3	2
11.	Malignant Neoplasm, lung, bronchus	...	...	...	...	2	—
12.	Malignant Neoplasm, breast	...	...	...	...	—	1
13.	Malignant Neoplasm, uterus	...	...	...	...	—	—
14.	Other malignant and lymphatic neoplasms	...	...	...	...	5	10
15.	Leukaemia, aleukaemia	...	...	...	...	1	—
16.	Diabetes	...	...	...	...	1	1
17.	Vascular lesions of nervous system	...	...	...	...	12	8
18.	Coronary disease, angina	...	...	...	...	13	6
19.	Hypertension with heart disease	...	...	...	...	—	1
20.	Other Heart Disease	...	...	...	...	1	7
21.	Other circulatory disease	...	...	...	...	2	2
22.	Influenza	...	...	...	...	1	—
23.	Pneumonia	...	...	...	...	3	2
24.	Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	6	—
25.	Other disease of respiratory system	...	...	...	...	1	1
26.	Ulcer of stomach and duodenum	...	...	...	...	1	—
27.	Gastritis, enteritis and diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	—	2
28.	Nephritis and nephrosis	...	...	...	...	—	—
29.	Hyperplasia of Prostate	...	...	...	...	—	—
30.	Pregnancy, childbirth, abortion	...	...	...	...	—	—
31.	Congenital malformations	...	...	...	...	1	—
32.	Other defined and ill-defined diseases	...	...	...	...	6	7
33.	Motor Vehicle Accidents	...	...	...	...	1	1
34.	All other accidents	...	...	...	...	—	1
35.	Suicide	...	...	...	...	1	1
36.	Homicide and operations of war	...	...	...	...	—	—
All Causes						61	53
Death of Infants under 1 year—Total						5	—
Legitimate						5	—
Illegitimate						—	—



**AGE GROUPS OF INFECTIOUS CASES (EXCLUDING  
TUBERCULOSIS) NOTIFIED IN 1956.**

Disease	At all ages		Under 1 yr.	1 to 2 yrs.	2 to 3 yrs.	3 to 4 yrs.	4 to 5 yrs.	5 to 10 yrs.	10 to 15 yrs.	15 to 25 yrs.	25 to 45 yrs.	45 to 65 yrs.	Over 65
	M	F											
Scarlet Fever ...	4	4	—	—	—	1	2	4	1	—	—	—	—
Whooping Cough	5	5	—	2	—	1	2	5	—	—	—	—	—
Acute Poliomyelitis (Non-Paralytic) ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—
Measles ...	3	9	—	1	1	1	—	9	—	—	—	—	—
Dysentery ...	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	—	—
Acute Pneumonia	9	4	—	—	—	—	1	5	1	1	1	1	3
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>—</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>23</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>3</b>



## GENERAL PUBLIC HEALTH.

### **Poliomyelitis.**

On the 24th of July a suspected case of Poliomyelitis was brought to our notice by the Headmaster of the Finchfield Hill County Primary School. This patient had first been admitted as a case of Meningitis to the Royal Hospital in Wolverhampton and was then transferred on the 24th of July to the Borough Hospital. diagnosed as a non-paralytic case of Poliomyelitis.

A list was obtained from the Headmaster of all close class contacts, and as the school was closing on Thursday, the 26th of July, a letter was sent to all parents of the contacts to put their children in quarantine and to report immediately any suspicious symptoms to the General Practitioner. A circular letter was also sent to the General Practitioners to inform them of the matter.

On the 25th of July we were informed by the Consultant that a final diagnosis had not yet been made but that all preventive measures should be taken, which I had already attended to as soon as the case came to my notice.

On the 25th of July I also visited the home of the notified case. The mother, employed in the school meals service of the Regis Road School, was quarantined for three weeks. The father was a press shop foreman and was therefore allowed to continue his employment. The brother, aged 15, a pupil in the Wolverhampton Grammar School, was quarantined for three weeks together with the sister of the patient, aged 7, who was a pupil in the Finchfield Hill School. The patient began to develop headaches on the 21st of July, but got up for lunch and went to a cycling proficiency test in the afternoon in Castlecroft School. In the evening the headaches returned and continued on Sunday, the 22nd of July. Although the patient got up for lunch, he had to return to bed at 5 p.m., when severe vomiting set in. A temperature developed and on Monday the 23rd of July the General Practitioner admitted the patient to Hospital.

The case was notified by the Borough Hospital on the 6th of September 1956, whereas the patient was discharged home on the 15th of August. The absurdity of such a procedure is only too obvious, especially if one considers that the Health Department had been repeatedly in contact with the Borough Hospital with regard to the notification of the case. Finally the matter was left for the County Medical Officer of Health to pursue.

It becomes increasingly apparent that the timely notification of severe Infectious Disease seems to devolve more and more on the Headmaster and the Teachers of the Schools, as in this particular instance all preventive measures were taken after the timely intimation by the Headmaster of the School. In my Annual Report 1955 for the Urban District of Sedgley a case of Poliomyelitis was mentioned

which had not been notified by the Borough Hospital at all and was brought to the attention of the Health Department by School notification only.

On the 2nd October 1956, we were informed by the Headmaster of the Lower Street School that a child, had been admitted to the Borough Hospital, Wolverhampton, as a case of Meningitis and suspected Poliomyelitis. As the case resided in the Seisdon area the Medical Officer of Health of Seisdon was immediately informed of details in order to enable him to take preventive measures in his area. All close class contacts were excluded together with the two brothers of the patient and a child of the immediate neighbour who had been playing in the patient's home. These three children were also in the Infants' Department of the school.

The Borough hospital was contacted on the 2nd October and the Matron informed us that the diagnosis could not be confirmed for several days. I thought it therefore advisable to take all preventive measures in the school at once. On the 8th October we were informed however that the diagnosis was negative and therefore all contacts were immediately released from quarantine.

### **Dysentery.**

Dysentery was notified on the 17th of November which proved to be an isolated case with no further spread. The practitioner in attendance did not confirm the diagnosis by bacteriological investigation, neither was bacteriological freedom of the disease confirmed subsequently to recovery. As in a few individuals the carrier state may last as long as 2 years, freedom of the disease cannot be diagnosed unless bacteriological specimens have been taken. The Health Department therefore collected a specimen for bacteriological investigation which proved negative. In my own experience cases have been sent to hospital diagnosed as Dysentery who were subsequently found to be suffering from Salmonella infection. The importance of bacteriological confirmation has therefore been stressed on the Practitioner in question.

### **Propaganda—Diphtheria Immunisation.**

We have continued to take advantage of the facilities offered by the Central Council for Information with regard to the placing of advertisements in the Local Press in order to stimulate Diphtheria Immunisation. Three advertisements will therefore be inserted in the "Wolverhampton Chronicle," on January 18th, February 15th and March 15th, 1957.

### **Propaganda—Poliomyelitis Vaccination.**

In the month of March, without my knowledge and consent, posters were distributed both in Sedgley and Tettenhall Clinics



creating the impression on the Public that the Area Medical Officer was also the Medical Officer of Health of the Sedgley and Tettenhall Urban Districts. The Area Office was immediately informed that such false advertising could not be tolerated. A second batch of posters was subsequently issued, now creating the impression on the local populations that no information could be obtained from the Local Health Departments with regard to Poliomyelitis Vaccination but only from the Child Welfare Clinics or the Area Health Office in Brierley Hill. The dispute was therefore submitted to both the Sedgley and Tettenhall Health Committees where the matter was subsequently dealt with and rectified. The case was conspicuous by the total lack of consultation with the local Health Departments regarding the wording and the display of the posters.

Poliomyelitis Vaccinations were commenced in the month of May, both in the Tettenhall and Sedgley Urban Districts.

#### **Cases admitted to Hospital.**

For the year 1956, 4 cases were admitted to hospital for Infectious Disease as specified below:

2 cases Pulmonary Tuberculosis — Prestwood Sanatorium,  
Stourbridge.  
1 case Pulmonary Tuberculosis — Edge View, Kinver.  
1 case Bronchopneumonia — Moxley Isolation Hospital.

#### **Swabs and Specimens.**

Submitted to the Public Health Laboratory Service by Local Practitioners and myself:

Nose and Throat	...	Nil
Sputa	... ..	4
Faeces	... ..	1

#### **General Measures.**

School Notifications of Infectious Disease are received by the Health Department and carefully studied for any features necessitating prompt action and location.

When desirable, the schools are disinfected while terminal disinfection of premises and articles which have been exposed to infection is carried out in all cases of Diphtheria, Scarlet Fever, Tuberculosis, Cancer or other cases of long-standing disease.

Disinfection is attained by the use of Formaldehyde lamps and disinfectant fluid.

#### **National Assistance Act, 1948, Section 47.**

No cases were removed under the powers of this section during the year 1956.

### **Food Hygiene Regulations, 1955.**

Before these regulations came into force leaflets were distributed to all Food Businesses to acquaint themselves with the requirements of the new regulations. In general the regulations are incomplete and on many points extremely ambiguous. They fail to set a clear standard of food hygiene in the country. Matters such as the re-building or redesigning of food premises are not included with the result that food premises which are structurally far out of date have to remain in function whereas the provision of washing facilities "conveniently" accessible as mentioned in Section 16, is left too much to individual assessment. An important feature such as the construction of internal surfaces in food premises in hard, smooth and impervious material which can easily be cleaned, has not been mentioned either. There could be no more ideal material for the construction of internal surfaces of food premises than tiles. Section 25 is particularly confusing. If the highly perishable foods mentioned in this section are "exposed for sale" in a warm sunny window for long enough all conditions have been fulfilled to stimulate profuse bacterial growth which in the case of contaminated food could give rise to food poisoning.

With regard to the new Regulations the following food premises were inspected by me personally :

W-ton and District Co-op Society, 20, High Street  
 J. Fox, 18, High Street.  
 D. L. Smith, 11/13, High Street.  
 Barnett and Jones, 4/6, High Street.  
 W. F. Charters, 8, Upper Green.  
 Limes Stores, 1, Upper Green.  
 W. J. Cooper, 39, Bridgnorth Road.  
 Woodville (Tettenhall) Limited.  
 Wedge, 1. Mount Road.  
 Miss D. L. Nicholls, 1, Church Walk.  
 C. W. Bond, 6, Upper Green.  
 B. P. Evans, 24, School Road.  
 W-ton and District Co-op Society, 23, School Road.  
 W. Tandy, 5, Upper Street  
 Burke, 122A, Castlecroft Road.  
 The Mermaid Inn, Wightwick.  
 The Viewlands, Wightwick Bank.  
 The Mount Hotel, Mount Road.  
 The Rock Hotel.  
 District Valuer's Office, Finchfield House, Castlecroft.  
 Compton Grange, Compton Road.  
 Edenfield, Compton Road.  
 Tettenhall College.  
 Nurses' Canteen, Nurses' Home, Stockwell Road.  
 Castlecroft School Kitchen.

In general I found the conditions satisfactory and most of the regulations had been adhered to. Curiously, the most neglected



requirement was the provision of First-Aid Boxes. During my visits all necessary advice was given and suggestions made regarding any difficulties or further improvements. The following premises are needing further attention and were seen in September, 1956:

**Barnett and Jones Limited. 4/6, High Street.**

Sanitary Convenience communicates with the room where the sink is situated and where in all probability food is handled. According to Section 14 (4), no open food should be handled in this room, or equipment cleaned which is used for open food. The wash-basin is situated in the lavatory. Soap, towels and cloths were adequate but no First-Aid Box was available. The manager was advised to provide one. Hot and cold water will be installed.

**Limes Stores Limited, 1, Upper Green.**

One sink was available in the back room, used also as a wash-basin and provided with soap and cloths. The Sanitary Convenience communicates with this room and according to Section 14 (4) of the Regulations no open food should be handled there, or equipment cleaned which is used for open food. Hot and cold water have been installed but no proper First-Aid Box was in use. The Manager intended to acquire a properly stocked First-Aid Box from the Chemist.

In November the following premises were seen and reported on as follows:

**The Viewlands, Wightwick Bank.**

These premises contain a very spacious kitchen with good lighting and supplied with hot and cold water. Two sinks are available in the kitchen and it would be advisable to have a washbasin installed as well. The County Medical Officer has been approached about this matter. Lighting and ventilation of the Sanitary Conveniences used by the kitchen staff were satisfactory but no legible notices had been fixed yet. Clothes and shoes are stored in a separate room. First-Aid equipment was available and a large refrigerator is in use for the storage of perishable foods.

**The Mount Hotel, Mount Road.**

Improvements in the kitchen have been mentioned in my Annual Report for the year 1955. Two sinks are available in the kitchen, with hot and cold water and here again it would be advisable to have a washbasin installed. The tiling of the kitchen walls, especially of the wall behind the washing equipment, would be a great improvement as due to splashing, redecoration of the wall will become an almost yearly necessity. I have discussed these matters with the Manager, who would bring them to the attention of the Proprietor. The Sanitary Convenience used by the staff is situated outside and was satisfactory. A legible notice had been fixed. First-Aid equipment had been provided and also refrigerators for perishable food. Clothes and shoes were not stored in the kitchen.

### **Tettenhall College.**

As already indicated in the Annual Report for the year 1954, an extension of this kitchen would be a great improvement, as owing to the large number of meals which are being prepared, the kitchen has become too small for its purpose. Sanitary Conveniences are quite separate from the kitchen and a legible notice had been fixed. The kitchen is supplied with hot and cold water, a large refrigerator and one sink only. A second sink is a necessity but due to lack of space neither a second sink nor a washbasin can be installed. First-Aid equipment was available and clothes are hung in a corridor at some distance away from the kitchen.

### **Nurses' Canteen, Nurses' Home, Stockwell Road.**

The Sanitary Convenience is entirely separate from the kitchen. No legible notice had been fixed yet and a request was made to have this done. The kitchen is supplied with hot and cold water, a washbasin, a large double-size sink, First-Aid equipment and a refrigerator. Clothes are hung in locker accommodation in the room next to the kitchen.

There are, however, some unsatisfactory features about this kitchen and the Group Secretary of the Hospital Management Committee has been approached about the following points:

1. Improvements of natural lighting of the kitchen.
2. The necessity of acquiring a hot-plate oven.
3. The removal of the boiler from the kitchen.
4. The installation of 2 stainless steel sinks and drainage board in the kitchen to replace the present old sink.
5. The installation of a larger refrigerator as the refrigerator in use is too small for its purpose.

### **Clearance Areas.**

In the reporting year the Aldersley Road Clearance Area was represented on the 7th of November, 1956.

### **Tettenhall Council Mortuary.**

The building of the Council Mortuary was completed during the year and the premises have subsequently been used for post-mortem examinations. The Mortuary is built on impressively modern lines and consists of a reception room, a viewing room, a waiting room, and the post-mortem room. The latter contains the refrigeration room with accommodation for three bodies, and the pathologist's compartment.

Lavatories have been provided for the waiting room and the post-mortem section of the building.

The post-mortem room contains a drained body slab and a slab for examination of the organs, draining into a syphonic sluice. Hot and cold water are provided with electrostatic geysers in the



post-mortem room and the pathologist's compartment. A hose pipe has been supplied in the form of a rotating arm fixed to the wall, while striplighting and overhead electric heaters provide for good lighting and heating. An extraction fan and a de-odourising fan purify the air and in the refrigerating compartment a ventilator keeps the air circulating. The building is admirably suited for its purpose and has proved to be a great convenience and success.

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### TUBERCULOSIS.

The number of new cases notified during the year was 15 Pulmonary as against 13 Pulmonary and 1 Non-Pulmonary in the year 1955. There has been a transfer to the Tettenhall Urban District of 6 Pulmonary cases from outside districts, who were originally on other registers. Transfers to the district have occurred since the year 1952, as commented on in the report for that year.

Age Periods.	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.		Pulmonary.		Non-Pulmonary.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 1 yr.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1 to 4 yrs.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
5 to 9 yrs.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
10 to 14 yrs.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
15 to 19 yrs.	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
20 to 24 yrs.	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
25 to 34 yrs.	1	2	—	—	—	—	—	—
35 to 44 yrs.	1	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
45 to 54 yrs.	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—
55 to 64 yrs.	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
65 yrs. and over	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	3	6	—	—	—	—	—	—



**Yearly Figures for Last Decade.**

Year.	New Cases		Deaths.		Death Rate	
	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.	Pulmonary.	Non-Pulmonary.
1947	3	—	2	—	0.28	—
1948	4	1	1	—	0.13	—
1949	6	—	2	—	0.25	—
1950	2	—	—	1	—	0.12
1951	2	—	3	—	0.38	—
1952	13	—	1	—	0.13	—
1953	15	1	1	—	0.105	—
1954	14	1	2	—	0.199	—
1955	13	1	1	—	0.093	—
1956	15	—	—	—	—	—

**Tuberculosis Rehousing.**

Tuberculosis rehousing has proceeded regularly during the reporting year. At the end of the year 1956 there was one tuberculosis case on the waiting list.

**Tuberculosis Register.**

At the end of the year 1956 our Register counted 58 cases of Pulmonary and 4 cases of Non-Pulmonary Tuberculosis.

**Public Health Act, 1936, Section 172.**

No action had to be taken under Section 172 of the above mentioned Act during the year.

## WATER.

The Tettenhall Urban District is supplied by the Wolverhampton Corporation Water Undertaking.

I am indebted to Mr. B. L. McMillan, B.Sc., M.Inst.C.E., M.Inst.W.E., Water Engineer and Manager. for the following information:

1. The water supply in the district has been satisfactory both (a) in quality and (b) in quantity.
2. The water supplied by the Wolverhampton Corporation Water Undertaking is not liable to plumbo-solvent action.
3. Subsequent to treatment at the works, there has been no known contamination of the supply.
4. The summarised results of Bacteriological examination of water going into distribution is given below:

No. of Samples taken	Coli-Aerogenes Organisms per 100ml.			
	0	1—2	3—10	Over 10
836	808	19	6	3
Percentage samples ...	96.6	2.3	0.7	0.4

The population supplied from the mains in the District is 11,404. Of the houses in the district, 3,648 obtain water direct from the mains, 5 from standpipes and 3 houses have a well supply. These houses are situated at a considerable distance from the mains and the connection to the Wolverhampton supply has proved to be uneconomical. Samples taken during the year for bacteriological examinations proved satisfactory. The results were as follows:

	Coliform Bacilli MacConkey 2 days 37°C	Faecal Coli
Well No. 1 Wergs Hall. 28th May 1956	25	Nil per 100 ml.
Well No. 2 Dippons Cott. 28th May 1956	25	Nil per 100 ml.
Well No. 3 Perton Mill Farm 28th May 1956	Nil	Nil per 100 ml.

## **SEWAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL.**

In July 1954 the Minister of Housing and Local Government authorised the Council to proceed with the detailed design of the new Sewage Works and to invite tenders for carrying out the scheme. A new site was suggested off the Bridgnorth Road at Perton. In the year 1956 agreement was reached with the Planning Authority regarding the site. The Council's consultants, Messrs. Willcox, Raikes and Marshall had inspected the site and agreed that it was suitable and were preparing a detailed scheme of it. On the 26th of July 1956, the Minister of Housing and Local Government held an inquiry under Inspector Mr. I. H. Hainsworth, M.I.C.E., at the Tettenhall Council Offices in connection with the proposals of the Council for the acquisition of the new site on the Bridgnorth Road and in connection with the proposals of the Engineers, Messrs. Willcox, Raikes and Marshall as to the design of the scheme. Up to the date of writing the Minister's observations have not been received.

## **REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL.**

There is one tip in the Tettenhall Urban District on the Bridgnorth Road, Compton. It is satisfactorily maintained on the principle of controlled tipping. Concern has been felt for some time as to the need for a further tipping site and preliminary consultations have taken place with regard to an alternative.

A regular collection of house refuse has been maintained. House refuse is now collected on an average of once in nine days, against once in 11 days during the previous year.

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## HOUSING.

Houses completed during the period 1st January to 31st December, 1956:

48 Municipal Houses.

88 Private Houses.

113 Houses for Wolverhampton Corporation.

During the year 1956 two thirds of the Grange Estate have been completed. The Parklands, Wightwick Hall and Wood Road Estates are privately developed and further progress has been made in the building of these estates which have not yet been completed. A smaller section of private development at Fernleys Road was started during the year, together with the much larger Viewlands Estate. The Wolverhampton Corporation, after finishing the two Castlecroft Estates, is at present engaged in the completion of the Finchfield Estate.

Due to restrictions in Municipal Development imposed by the Government it was necessary to revise the Housing Application List during the year 1955. At the end of the year 1956 there were still 240 applicants on the waiting list.

The Aldersley Road Clearance Area was represented during the year. Together with the Lower Street Clearance Area, 59 premises will be cleared under Clearance Procedure. The Official Enquiry of the Lower Street Clearance Area took place on the 14th of February, 1956, during which one objection had to be dealt with.

The following table gives the number of applications for Improvement Grants and the total value involved:

### Year Ended 31st December, 1956.

No. of applications dealt with	No. of applications refused	No. of applications withdrawn	No. granted		Total value of work involved	Total value of grants
			Owner/occupiers	Others		
3	Nil	Nil	3	Nil	£1,256	£620

## REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR.

### HOUSING.

During the year the Public Health Committee acting for the Council has considered official representations in respect of properties and the following gives details of the action taken during the year under review :

41, Mount Road, Tettenhall Wood.	<b>Action taken.</b> Official Representation made in 1955. Demolition Order made under Section 11 of the Housing Act 1936, completed in 1956.
Perton Grove Cottage.	Official Representation made in 1955. Demolition Order made under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936, completed in 1956.
11, 13, 15, 17 Ormes Lane.	Demolition Order made under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936.
3, Grove Lane.	Demolition Order made under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936.
The Cottage, Mill Lane, Tettenhall Wood.	Demolition Order made under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936.
34 and 36, Henwood Road, Compton.	Official Representation made under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936. Informal undertaking accepted from the owner to make good foundations, front and passage walls. This work has been completed.
16, Mount Road, Tettenhall Wood.	Official Representation considered but no action taken.
27 to 39, Upper Street, Tettenhall.	The members of the Committee inspected this property and it was resolved that the Housing Committee be asked to give consideration to the rehousing of the tenants at as early a date as possible.



43, 45, 47, 51, Bridgnorth Road.	Demolition Orders made under Section 11 of the Housing Act, 1936.
1 and 2, Deepmere Cottages.	Converted into one modern house.
2 and 4, Mount Road.	These houses were demolished during the year.
44, and 46, Castlecroft Road.	These houses were demolished during the year.
26, Manor Street.	This house was demolished during the year.
6, 8, 10, 10A, 12, 14, 16, 18, Boat Row, Compton. (20 to 34, Compton Road West).	These houses were demolished during the year.

The Official inspections of 18 houses in the Aldersley Road Clearance area was made for the Medical Officer of Health to submit his Official Representation to the November meeting of the Public Health Committee.

10 families were rehoused by the Council during the year from houses where Demolition Orders were operative.

At the end of the year 25 houses with Demolition Orders or Closing Orders remained occupied, 12 of these had been allocated Council Houses and have been rehoused in the early part of 1957. Rehousing has also been recommended in respect of 7 houses owned by the Council. The rehousing of families from the houses in Lower Street Compulsory Purchase Order will need a further 22 houses. The Aldersley Road Clearance Area would also require a further 18 houses to accommodate the families housed therein.

The following is a summary of the action taken on individual premises during the post-war period :

- 89 houses with Demolition Orders under Sect. 11
- 12 houses—Informal Action agreed (L.A. owned)
- 4 houses or flats—Undertaking not to be used for further human habitation.
- 9 houses reconditioned following Sect. 11 procedure.
- 9 houses improved under Public Health Acts after Section 11 procedure.
- 2 houses with Closing Orders operative.
- 1 house represented but no further action taken.

The present economic policy of the Government appears to encourage Local Authorities to push ahead with the rehousing of



families from sub-standard houses. This policy is very commendable from an environmental health aspect and I hope the Committee will continue to give their support to this work.

A great deal has been said in previous annual and monthly reports about the conditions of sub-standard housing but in very simple terms the difficulties and hazards, particularly for old people and families of very young children, are the poor natural lighting, inefficient and unguarded firegrates, poor personal and clothes washing facilities, steep cellar and out-door steps, steep and dark internal staircases, external sanitary conveniences, inadequate facilities for heating water, and in the frosty weather the difficulties of frozen water pipes. Other unpleasant and common features are dampness in walls and floors, perished plaster work, which make the decoration and cleansing of premises a continuous and thankless task.

These are the basic defects of poor housing.

Notices served for repairs and improvements of houses under the Public Health Act were as follows:

INFORMAL		STATUTORY	
No. of Houses	No. of Defects	No. of Houses	No. of Defects
33	65	30	70

#### **Rent Restrictions—Housing Repairs and Rents Act, 1954.**

No applications received.

#### **Moveable Dwellings.**

Only one application was received during the year for authority to station a trailer caravan in the Compton Area. The vehicle was moved after informal action.

#### **Sanitary Accommodation.**

The undermentioned figures give a summary of the various types of sanitary conveniences other than modern type water closets, which were in use at the end of 1956:

Waste Water Closets	...	...	17
Pail Closets	...	...	10
Cesspool and Septic Tanks	...	...	50 approximately

During the year 5 waste water closets were converted to modern type W.C.'s and one was disconnected when the premises were modernised. One house with a pail closet became subject to Demolition Order during the year and another 4 premises with these fittings were subject to Official Representation under the Housing Act in January of 1957.

Of the 17 remaining houses with waste water closets, 9 of these will be subject to demolition action under the Council's 5 year programme for dealing with sub-standard housing.

## FOOD INSPECTION AND HYGIENE.

### Meat Inspection.

The following table gives the number of animals slaughtered and percentages of number affected with diseases:

#### Carcases and offal inspected and condemned in whole or in part.

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed (if known)	623	Nil	26	3497	1138	Nil
Number inspected	623	Nil	26	3497	1138	Nil
<b>All diseases except Tu- berculosis and Cysticerci.</b>	Nil	Nil	Nil	4	1	Nil
Whole carcases condemned						
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	68	Nil	1	12	15	Nil
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis and Cysti- cerci	10.91	Nil	3.84	0.45	1.40	Nil
<b>Tuberculosis only</b>						
Whole carcases condemned	Nil	Nil	1	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	14	Nil	Nil	Nil	17	Nil
Percentage of the num- ber inspected affected with Tuberculosis	2.24	Nil	3.84	Nil	1.49	Nil
<b>Cysticercosis</b>						
Carcases of which some part or organ was con- demned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Carcases submitted for treatment by refrigera- tion	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil
Generalised and totally condemned	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil	Nil

3 beasts hearts were condemned for calcified single cysts; as no further evidence was available for cysticercosis no further action was taken.



Outside of minor strippings and trimmings, the following was condemned.

335 lbs. of meat.

1184 lbs. of offal.

This was disposed of by incineration or by delivering to the digester plant at Wolverhampton Abattoir.

The total number of carcasses inspected had an increase of 1196 over the previous year.

During the year it was necessary to carry out 101 visits on meat inspection out of normal office hours.

Only two slaughterhouses are in use throughout the district.

#### **Slaughter of Animals Act, 1933 to 1954.**

6 licences were renewed during the year. In the granting of these licences consideration was given to the provisions of the new Slaughter of Animals Act 1954.

#### **Game Dealers Licences.**

No licences were issued during the year.

#### **Food Inspection.**

Regular inspection of all foodstuffs is carried out at shops, storeplaces, food preparing premises and on vehicles.

The following articles were condemned during the year :

2 tins Grapefruit	1 tin Peeled Shrimps
3 tins Ox Tongues	8 tins Corned Beef
4 tins Lamb Tongues	3 tins Pineapple Juice
20 tins Tomatoes	4 tins Peas
3 tins Pears	4 tins Glenrych Pilchards

Complaints were made by a Tettenhall Wood and a Tettenhall resident regarding dark discolouration found in wrapped sliced bread supplied by two different large manufacturing bakeries. Action under Section 2 of the Food and Drugs Act 1955 was considered in each case by the Council, but following receipt of analysts' reports and a satisfactory explanation being supplied by each manufacturer, no further legal action was proceeded with.

#### **Ice Cream.**

15 samples were submitted to the Methylene Blue Test with the following results :

- 10 in Grade I.
- 1 in Grade II.
- 4 in Grade IV.



### Ice Lollies.

8 samples were submitted for examination. The results were as detailed below:

No. of samples submitted	Plate Count per c.c.				B. Coli. Content	
	Under 10	10 to 100	100 to 1,000	1,000 +	Nil in 0.3 c.c	Present in 0.3 c.c
8	3	1	2	2	6	2

Results of the less satisfactory samples were brought to the notice of the manufacturers and the Health Authorities in the areas concerned.

Of the samples with B.Coli. present in 0.3 c.c., none were of the faecal type.

### Food Premises.

Within the district there are the following food premises. They are itemised under their main business headings:

26 Grocers  
12 Confectioners  
8 Butchers  
5 Greengrocers  
3 Chemists  
2 Fish and Chip  
1 Fish  
19 Licenced Premises  
18 Canteens

27 premises are registered for the sale of ice-cream. No ice-cream is manufactured within the district.

4 premises are registered for the manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled or preserved food.

The following table gives a summary of licences issued by the Council to Milk Distributors in the district.

Designation.	Supplementary Licences.	Dealers' Licences.	Total.
Tuberculin Tested ...	6	2	8
Pasteurised ... ..	6	2	8
Sterilised ... ..	6	11	17

The only dairy premises under the control of the Local Authority were discontinued at the latter part of the year.

### **Inspections.**

During the year 315 inspections were made to premises registered under the Food and Drugs Act. These were incorporated with inspections made under other Sections of the Act relating to the Hygiene Regulations.

Having consideration to the types of business carried on throughout the district it has been found more practical to discuss personally with each tradesman the particular problems of his trade or premises.

Unsound food is disposed of by incineration and burial in the Council's refuse tip.

No examination of bulk food supplies has been found necessary.

All food premises within the area have been visited during the year and the requirements of the New Hygiene Regulations explained where necessary. This has been followed up by notices requesting works or improvements.

Particular attention has been paid to the following :

1. Provision of Hot Water supplies for cleaning of utensils and washing facilities for staff.
2. Improvement of counters and benches by covering the surfaces with hard smooth washable materials.
3. The provision of counter guards where open foods are exposed for sale.
4. Minimising the amount of open food exposed in shops and wherever possible keeping this type of food in refrigerators or at the rear away from public contamination.
5. The provision of frig. counters and cabinets to maintain open foods at a proper temperature.
6. Treatment of walls and surfaces adjoining where food is handled to provide easily cleaned and washable surfaces.
7. Personal hygiene and cleanliness among staff.
8. Provision of First-Aid supplies.

During the year 57 notices were served under these standards and very considerable improvement has been effected to all food premises throughout the district. It is felt that this work is best carried out informally. More and better results are obtained by persuasion and personal interview than statutory action.

### **Licenced Premises.**

Inspections were also made to all licensed premises with a view to improving the glass washing facilities and hot water supplies. 9 notices were served requesting improvements, and enlargements to existing facilities. Also incorporated with these notices were requirements for improvements to sanitary conveniences, yards, cellars and domestic quarters.

### Milk and Dairies.

The major proportion of the milk retailed is brought in from the larger milk treatment plants in adjoining areas. There only remains one local dairy distributing from within the district, and 11 shops retailing bottled milks. The bulk of the milk is heat treated either Pasteurised or Sterilised. A small percentage of raw "Tuberculin Tested" milk is also retailed.

There are 7 dairy farms within the district; only one of these carries on the business of milk retailer. All milk retailed in the area is bottled.

The results of samples of milk taken within the district for examination are set out as follows.

Designation.	No. Samples Submitted.	Phenol Phthalein.		Phosphatase		Turbidity		Methylene Blue	
		Pass.	Fail.	P.	F.	P.	F.	P.	F.
Tuberculin Tested .	17	—	—	—	—	—	—	15	2
T.T. (Past) .	18	—	—	18	—	—	—	17	1
Pasteurised .	15	—	—	15	—	—	—	14	1
Sterilised	11	—	—	—	—	11	—	—	—

Of the above samples, the following were also submitted to biological test for tubercle bacilli:

Designation.	No.	Negative.	Positive.
Tuberculin Tested ...	2	2	—



### Food and Drugs Act—1955.

I am indebted to the County Medical Officer of Health for the following information regarding samples of food taken in Tettenhall.

#### Details of Milk and General Foods taken during 1956.

Article of Food.	Number of Samples.	Satisfactory	Unsatisfactory
Milk ... ..	43	43	—
General Foods ...	37	36	1

Details are set out as follows:

#### Milk.

Milk Pasteurised ... ..	12
Milk Sterilised ... ..	8
Milk T.T. ... ..	4
Milk T.T. Pasteurised ...	17
Milk T. T. Pasteurised Channel Island ... ..	2
	—
Total	43 All Genuine.
	—

#### General Foods.

Number of samples taken ...	37
Number of samples genuine ...	36
Number of samples adulterated ...	1

#### Particulars of Adulterated Sample.

Grandjo Wine—Formal—Contains sulphur dioxide preservative in excess of the maximum permitted amount.

Matter taken up with Importers, who have arranged Conference in this Country with their Portuguese suppliers. Existing stocks withdrawn.

**Classification of General Foods.**

Tomato Juice	Glucose Drink flavoured with whole fresh lemons
Beef Steak with gravy	
Bilberry Jam	Citroze
Coffee Cream Biscuits	Royal Cambridge Sausages
Rose Cream Biscuits	Food Drink
Venetian Cream Wafers	Grandjo Wine
Cooking Fat	Dessert Wine
Baking Powder (2 samples)	Christmas Pudding
Chickletts	Glucose Barley Sugar
Sweetened Apple Sauce	Plush Nuggets
Orange Flower Water	Dainty Fudge
Ground Mace	Tea
Potato Flour	Plain Flour
Mixed Fruit	Cut Mixed Peel
Vanilla Sugar	Mincemeat
Grape Fruit Sections	Mince Pies
Bean Curd	Butter
Raspberry Cream Filled Milk	Meat Paste
Chocolate	Crab

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## **SMOKE ABATEMENT.**

The Clean Air Act was passed on the 5th July 1956, and several sections became operative at the latter part of the year.

This legislation gives Local Authorities a real opportunity to tackle the problem of smoke nuisance from industrial and domestic premises. In a residential area the Act does legislate for the making of Smoke Control Areas. This is a real effective measure to reduce the pollution of the atmosphere from domestic installations which are the cause of half of all the pollution. The success of these measures is to a very large degree controlled by the available supplies of anthracite, coke, smokeless fuels, oil, gas and electricity.

It is officially anticipated that during the next few years supplies of coke will become increasingly available for domestic use. This is due to the increasing use of gas, oil and the cheaper fuels in industry where they can be used efficiently and smokelessly.

The present type of open domestic grates are not capable of burning locally produced bituminous fuels efficiently or smokelessly and it appears that it is not a reasonable practicable proposition to design a domestic grate that will burn these fuels smokelessly. It does appear that some of the new approved types of domestic grates which are specified for the burning of smokeless fuels do fail by reason of faulty fixing to old fireplaces. Also from general observation the public appear to object to the closed type of stove which is most efficient, because of appearance and a preference to see the fire. A great deal of educational work will have to be done on the correct uses of fuel, new appliances, and to the building trade on the proper fixing of new grates.

This legislation which places the responsibility on Local Authorities to make smoke control areas appears to be the only real sound and practical long term method of abating smoke pollution.

Other powers given under the Act are control of new furnaces, height of chimneys and the making of building bye-laws.

A scheme for the measurement of atmospheric pollution within the district was considered during the year, but no further action was taken pending agreement between the Staffordshire County Council and the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research.

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### ROUTINE INSPECTION WORK.

Summary of the inspection work carried out during the year is given in the following table :

Type of Premises inspected	No. of Inspections
Water, Drainage and Sanitary Services ... ..	233
Refuse ... ..	61
Rodent Control ... ..	167
Repairs to Premises ... ..	271
Food Shops and Food Preparing Premises ... ..	315
Infectious Disease ... ..	7
Shops other than Food Premises ... ..	41
Factories ... ..	54
Dairies ... ..	15
Housing Acts ... ..	195
Miscellaneous ... ..	152
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>1511</b>

### General Information Regarding Notices Served During the Year

Form of Notice	No. Served	Premises	Defects
<b>Informal :</b>			
(a) General Sanitary Defects	81	107	142
<b>Statutory :</b>			
(a) Defects ... ..	31	35	73

Legal proceedings were successfully taken in respect of piggeries in the Finchfield Area and also the use of the premises was discontinued.

Legal proceedings were also instituted in respect of 6 houses in Finchfield. The summons were eventually withdrawn after completion of the necessary works.

In addition, by informal action, 151 dustbins were provided to private houses.

### **Shops Acts 1912—1950.**

Within the district there are 99 premises, coming under the following main headings :

Grocers, General Stores and Confectioners	...	29
Newsagents and Tobacconists	... ..	6
Meat Purveyors	... ..	8
Fish Merchants and Game Dealers	... ..	2
Fried Fish Shops	... ..	2
Greengrocers and Florists	... ..	7
Chemists	... ..	3
Hairdressers	... ..	6
Haberdashery	... ..	6
Off-Licence Premises	... ..	3
Motor Cycle Requisites	... ..	7
Boot Repairers and Leather Goods	... ..	5
Hardware	... ..	5
Sub Post-Offices not included in the above	...	3
Dry Cleaners	... ..	1
Animal Food Shops	... ..	1
Antiques	... ..	1
Coal Merchants	... ..	4

There are also 17 licenced premises. This figure includes one residential hotel. There is also one grocer's shop with a wine and spirit licence.

Ten new shop premises came into use at the latter part of the year in the Castlecroft Area.

During the year all the shops in the district were inspected for the provisions of the Act and the various forms relating to Young Persons, half-day closing and seating facilities were distributed to premises where other than self-employed staff were engaged.

The extension of hours of closing prior to Christmas was notified in the Press in conjunction with neighbouring authorities.

No contraventions of the legislation were found.

### **Pet Animals Act, 1951.**

No applications were received during the year for licence to retail pet animals from shop premises.

### **Heating Appliances (Fireguards) Reg. 53.**

No action was taken during the year.

### Rodent Control.

During the year 99 domestic premises, 3 County Council buildings, the sewage farm and refuse tip were treated. The annual treatment of 10% test baiting to sewer manholes was also completed. 130 manholes were baited and only two showed a prebait take. A further poison treatment was carried out on all manholes in the vicinity of the initial bait takes and successful takes were recorded in four manholes.

The main source of complaints in domestic premises appear to arise from fowl pens, the depositing of bread in the garden for birds, and workmen leaving food scraps in and about buildings in course of construction. This latter cause has presented the major difficulties in treatment because the rodents have made access to the building through service pipe holes and the complaints are made after tenants are in occupation when it is found that the rats are in roof spaces and cavities of walls.

The infestation of agricultural premises has been very slight and it was found that most farmers are treating their own premises with Warfarin poisons.

### FACTORIES ACT, 1937.

Inspections for purposes of provisions as to Health.

Premises	No. in District	Inspections
Factories in which Sects. 1, 2, 3, 4 and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities (Workshops) ... ..	4	7
Factories in which Sect. 7 is enforced by Local Authorities (Factories with Mechanical Power) ... ..	12	32
Other premises in which Sect. 7 is enforced by the Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises) ...	31	15
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>47</b>	<b>54</b>

There are no records of any out-workers within the district.



**Defects Found.**

Particulars	Found	Remedied
Want of Cleanliness ... ..	3	3
Insufficient Sanitary Convenience ...	1	1

**MISCELLANEOUS.**

Disinfection of library books was carried out during the year for the Branch Library of the County Council at Tettenhall Wood.

Disinfestation treatments were carried out at one house for flea infestation and at two other houses for fly infestation.







